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(d) whether the ryots undertook to pay a higher rate of assessment in case the said vanka water is diverted into the tank and gave statements that they were prepared to pay Rs. 10 and Rs. 12 for the rates of Rs. 4 and Rs. 6 respectively now prevailing ;

(e) whether any and if so, what extent can be brought under cultivation afresh if the vanka water is diverted as requested ;

(f) what is the amount of increase in the beriz of the village if the proposed enhancement in rates is made ;

(g) what is the estimated cost of diverting the vanka water ;

(h) what is the amount of remissions that have been granted to the ryots holding lands under the tank for the last ten years ;

(i) whether there was any year in which no remission was granted during the last ten years ; and

(j) what is the extent of irrigable ayacut under the tank and what is the extent of dry lands under the occupation of the ryots ?

*A.*—(a) *to* (j) A report has been called for.

Mr. A. PARASURAMA RAO :—" May I know whether a report has since been received ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

*Irrigation tanks in Peddapur and Cocanada taluks.*

* 1255 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number and names of irrigation tanks in the Peddapur taluk, Pittapur division and Cocanada taluk in zamindari and Government lands respectively ;

(b) whether the ayacut of the tanks was definitely settled at any time and if so, whether a register is being maintained showing the same ;

(c) whether the full tank level of each of the tanks has been fixed and is being maintained ;

(d) what steps the Government have taken to maintain the ayacut and the level of each of the tanks without their being interfered with by others ;

(e) whether it is a fact that in respect of some tanks water is stored to a very large extent without making necessary protective arrangements ;

(f) the number of tanks that breached during the recent floods ;

(g) whether it is a fact that the breaches were due to the storing of water beyond their capacity and the inadequacy of bunds and other protective arrangements ; and

(h) whether the Government propose to make any and if so, what arrangements to prevent such breaches in future ?

*A.*—(a) *to* (h) A report has been called for.

*Accumulation of sand and silt on the bed of the Godavari river.*

*1256 Q.—Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 900 answered on the 29th November 1928 regarding accumulation of sand and silt on the bed of the Godavari river—

(a) whether the report called for has since been received ; and

(b) if so, whether the same will be placed on the Council table ?

*A.*—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Chief Engineer's letter[a] No. 2406/28-C.E.P., dated 11th January 1929, is placed on the table.

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"May I know whether the Government would take on hand the remedial measures suggested in the Chief Engineer's letter ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I understand that these measures are now being taken."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—"It is said there 'Cutting leading channels in the shoals and ploughing as this will tend to the more easy removal of the shoal during floods'. That is not being done frequently May it be done now ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"I am certain the Chief Engineer will consider it. Certainly the Government have no objection."

*Proposed abolition of the Mettur district.*

* 1257 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received final reports from the Chief Engineer at Mettur and from the Board of Revenue regarding the proposal to abolish the Mettur district and if so, to what effect ;

(*b*) whether the Government have arrived at any decision regarding the matter and if so, to what effect ; and

(*c*) if no decision has yet been arrived at by the Government, at what stage the matter is at present ?

*A.*—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The reports of the Chief Engineer at Mettur and the Board of Revenue have been received, and the subject is being considered by the Government. The orders of the Government will be published in due course.

*Use by the public of the new Cauvery bridge at Mettur.*

* 1258 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any memorials have been received by the Government or the Board of Revenue to the effect that the new bridge at Mettur over the Cauvery is used only by the Public Works Department authorities and that the public are prevented from using it and are therefore put to great inconvenience when they have to cross the river for attending courts, etc., at Mettur ;

(*b*) whether the Government have passed any order regarding the use of the bridge by the public and if so, to what effect ; and

(*c*) if not, whether the Government have any and if so, what objection to pass an order now making the bridge open to the public also ?

*A.*—(*a*) No memorials have been received by Government.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The Government have called for a report from the Engineer-in-Chief and the Board of Revenue on the statements made in clause (*a*) of the question.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 637–638 infra.